

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 30, 1999 LB 530

don't...I don't know where it's headed. But I do want to say, so it's clear, what I'm going to talk about. These next numbers are not related to this bill, but they are going to show up in your budget because of the lawsuit, and I want you to understand this is not directly connected to this bill. It has not...it is not to do with the withdrawal, but it does have to do with the costs that you're going to see in our budget this next few weeks. Because of the lawsuit, the funds are frozen at this time and we're having to use General Funds to defend ourselves. So, in the deficit bill, there's \$1,827,700 for this year to finish out this current year so DEQ can pay their bills, and for the next immediate year it's \$5,724,000 for just the next fiscal year, July '99 to June 30th, 2000. Those will be parts of a self-defending (inaudible) lawsuits, best estimate at this point. That is another issue, but I thought might be important to bring it up so you don't confuse the two. Withdrawing is...I take Senator Dierks', Senator Kristensen figures. I know no different numbers than that. The numbers I am talking to you about will be for the lawsuit. So, whatever happens, state of Nebraska's going to be paying at this point unless the decision changes on April 10th and those funds are unfrozen by the judge, which I have no knowledge of what will happen there. But I want you to know, there is two issues. There's maybe a tendency over the next two or three weeks to get these confused, but the withdrawal, which I support, I assume Senator Dierks' figures are accurate. I have no reason to question those. The numbers I mentioned will be the ongoing costs that we're going to have to defend our process in the state of Nebraska.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: There are no further lights. Senator Dierks, you're recognized to close on the advancement of LB 530.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. There's just about 10 years of...maybe 12 now, of information available in my office and if someone wants to do a bestseller, the information's all there to start with it. You wouldn't believe the chapters that we could write about this issue, about the broken hearts, about the misbehavior, about the loss of confidence, about the lack of what we call democratic process. But I think we're finally to the place where we're going to do the right thing and I want to just mention a couple things in closing. The figure that Senator Kristensen gave you about